

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/827,838

Examiner

Qamrun Nahar

Applicant(s)

PLUMER ET AL.

Art Unit

2191

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/13/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14, 16-19, 21-30, 32-35, 37-40, 43-47, 49-51 and 59-69, renumbered 1-55.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TODD INGBERG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on 1/13/05.
2. The objections to the drawings are withdrawn in view of applicant's submission of replacement sheets.
3. The objection to claim 42 is moot in view of applicant's amendment.
4. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention to claims 9, 31-38, 49 and 57-58 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment and remarks/arguments.
5. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 to claims 41-42 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment and remarks/arguments.
6. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Clark (U.S. 6,411,922) to claims 1-19, 22-35, 38-47 and 50-58 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment and remarks/arguments.
7. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark (U.S. 6,411,922) in view of Walser (U.S. 6,731,998) to claims 20-21, 36-37, 48-49 and 59-62 is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendment and remarks/arguments.
8. Claims 1, 9, 16-19, 21-22, 24, 32-35, 37-38, 43, 52 and 57 have been amended.
9. Claims 63-69 have been added.
10. Claims 15, 20, 31, 36, 41, 42, 48 and 52-58 have been canceled (also, see Examiner's Amendment below).
11. Claims 1-14, 16-19, 21-30, 32-35, 37-40, 43-47, 49-51 and 59-69 are pending.

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12. Claims 1-14, 16-19, 21-30, 32-35, 37-40, 43-47, 49-51 and 59-69 are allowed, renumbered 1-55.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

13. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey C. Hood (Reg. No. 35,198) on April 21, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 52-58.

52-58. (Canceled)

- END -

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

14. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior art taken alone or in combination fail to teach, in combination with the other claimed limitations, wherein the second solution uses the model of the first solution to determine how the first solution will respond to actions provided by the second solution as recited in independent claims 1, 24, 59 and 63; including the model of the second solution into the first solution, wherein the first solution uses the model of the second solution to determine how the second solution will respond to actions provided by the first solution as substantially recited in independent claims 43 and 61.

The closest cited prior arts, the combination of Clark (U.S. 6,411,922) and Walser (U.S. 6,731,998) teaches a method for enabling a user to create a program for controlling a process. However, the combination of Clark (U.S. 6,411,922) and Walser (U.S. 6,731,998) fails to teach wherein the second solution uses the model of the first solution to determine how the first solution will respond to actions provided by the second solution as recited in independent claims 1, 24, 59 and 63; including the model of the second solution into the first solution, wherein the first solution uses the model of the second solution to determine how the second solution will respond to actions provided by the first solution as substantially recited in independent claims 43 and 61; and as pointed out by the applicant's remarks/arguments on pg. 21, par. 2 to pg. 25, par. 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

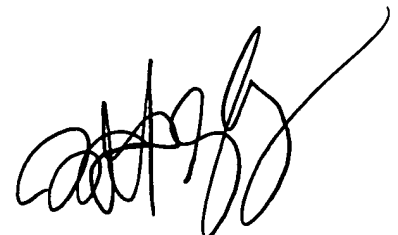
15. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Qamrun Nahar whose telephone number is (571) 272-3730. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam, can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or processing is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Qamrun Nahar
April 22, 2005



TODD INGBERG
PRIMARY EXAMINER